

## In Memory of Martha Harrington



On November 30, 2001, Martha Hannah Harrington passed away. The DoD Technology Transfer Community and the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division China Lake Technology Transfer Office lost a vital, respected, long term champion and practitioner of technology transfer and a good friend. In 1989, Martha was a paralegal in the China Lake Office of General Counsel who was selected to join a new two person office to establish a process to implement the latest Technology Transfer guidance. This included setting up an office to originate and implement processes to negotiate Patent License Agreements as well as the new Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs), which were the vehicles to be used in transferring Federally originated technology to the private sector.

The law authorizing this activity, the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986, was new and implementation brought situations that were many and varied, as well as challenging. Each federal agency and Military Service independently invented a CRADA format that would encourage public-private partnering in research and development and at the same time would be legal and fair to both parties. Martha was instrumental in helping the Office of Naval Research develop the first format and set of processes for the Navy Standard CRADA. In so doing, she worked closely not only with her Navy colleagues but with her Technology Transfer counterparts throughout the Federal Government. From the earliest days of Technology Transfer, Martha was a proactive champion and expert in negotiating CRADAs and licenses. Her legal background served her well and she became well known for her legal expertise with respect to partnering agreements. Martha brought a keen intelligence, tenacity, passion, and dedication to every task she undertook. Her commitment to excellence was total. To Martha, the best she had to give was the least she could offer. She was always thinking of ways to do the job better. Martha had the trust and respect of the China Lake technologists as well as its legal staff. From the late 1980s until her death Martha was the one constant guiding light for technology transfer at China Lake. She mentored many in the profession of technology transfer. Under her mentorship the China Lake Technology Transfer Office negotiated 95 CRADAs and 9 patent licenses agreements between 1989 and 2001. Martha herself negotiated 37 CRADAs and all of the patent licenses.

A year and a half ago, Martha chaired a committee of Navy technology transfer experts chartered with completely rewriting and updating the Navy Standard CRADA. The result was the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Navy Standard CRADA - easier to understand and use – and now used throughout the Navy.

Martha mentored others throughout the Federal technology transfer community through her participation in the Federal Laboratory Consortium and the DoD Technology Transfer Integrated Planning Team. She was always willing to share so others might learn and benefit from her knowledge.

Away from work, Martha was a wife, a mother, a grandmother, an avid horsewoman, an athlete, and a good and close friend of many. All who knew Martha, at work and away from work, will miss her quick smile, her positive attitude, her humor, her willingness to do more than she was asked, her experience and knowledge, her friendship, and her mentoring. Martha Harrington was a quality person and a professional. She was a person who touched many lives in many different ways.

Martha Hannah Harrington will be missed greatly by all who had the privilege of knowing her.